



## CHICKENS & EGGS

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**Maryland:** Laying flocks produced 63 million eggs during September 2003, of which 61 million were table eggs and 2 million were hatching eggs. The average rate of lay was 75 percent. The average number of layers on hand during September 2003 was 2,804,000. On October 1, 2002, 6 percent of the layers in Maryland were being molted and 23.0 percent of all layers had been through a molt.

The September 2003 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 739 million, was down slightly from September of the previous year. There were 600 million eggs in incubators on October 1, 2003, up 2 percent from a year earlier. Leading breeders placed 6.7 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during September 2003, down slightly from September 2002.

**United States:** Egg production totaled 7.05 billion during September 2003, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.04 billion table eggs and 1.02 billion hatching eggs, of which 961 million were broiler-type and 55.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during September 2003 averaged 332 million, down 2 percent from a year earlier. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,128 eggs, up slightly from September 2002.

Egg-type chicks hatched during September totaled 35.8 million, up slightly from September 2002. Eggs in incubators totaled 30.1 million on October 1, 2003, up 1 percent from a year ago. Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 269,000 during September 2003, down 3 percent from September 2002.

### Eggs and Layers: September 2002 and 2003

Item	2002	2003	2003/ 2002
<b>Eggs Produced During Sept</b>	<i>Million</i>		<i>Percent</i>
U.S.	7,147	7,054	99
Maryland	72	63	88
<b>Layers, Average Number During Sept</b>	<i>Thousand</i>		
U.S.	337,264	331,659	98
Maryland	3,147	2,804	89
<b>Eggs / 100 Layers During Sept</b>	<i>Number</i>		
U.S.	2,119	2,128	100
Maryland	2,288	2,247	98

## CORN FOR GRAIN QUICK FACTS

### Top Yielding States<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Bu./Acre</i>
Washington	195
California	170
New Mexico	170
Illinois	169
Iowa	156

### Top Producing States<sup>1</sup>

	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
Iowa	1,872,000
Illinois	1,867,450
Nebraska	1,108,250
Minnesota	950,950
Indiana	806,600

<sup>1</sup> Based on October 10, 2003 *Crop Production Report*

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Prices received by Maryland farmers for the month of October were down for wheat, corn, and soybeans from September. Wheat prices fell \$0.12 from the previous month while the barley price remains stagnant. Corn and soybean prices fell \$0.23 and

\$0.04 respectively. Livestock prices are up from September. The All Beef Cattle price increased a \$2.90 per cwt and calf price increased \$6.40. Hog prices are up \$0.40 from September. Broiler and chicken prices are up slightly.

**Prices Received, Maryland, Delaware & United States, September & October 2003**

Commodity	Unit	Maryland and Delaware			United States			
		OCT 2002	SEPT 2003	OCT 2003	OCT 2002	SEPT 2003	OCT 2003	Parity Price
Dollars								
Wheat, Winter	BU	3.87	3.20	3.08	4.32	3.32	3.14	9.82
Corn	BU	2.90	2.62	2.39	2.34	2.20	2.02	6.71
Barley	BU	1.42	1.83	1.83	2.64	2.88	2.61	6.64
Soybeans	BU	5.46	7.00	6.96	5.20	6.06	6.94	14.70
All Hay, Baled	TON	156.00	149.00	160.00	93.80	84.20	84.40	----
All Beef Cattle	CWT	62.90	83.90	86.80	64.60	85.10	91.60	163.00
Calves	CWT	81.00	88.50	94.90	92.00	109.00	112.00	219.00
Hogs	CWT	30.50	37.90	38.30	30.80	39.60	37.70	104.00
Chickens	LB	0.084	0.083	0.084	-----	-----	-----	-----
Broilers	LB	0.360	.322	0.330	0.270	0.370	0.370	-----
Turkeys, Live	LB	----	----	----	0.372	0.357	0.386	0.999
Eggs, Market	DOZ	0.468	.730	0.797	0.560	0.783	0.895	1.61

<sup>1</sup> Revised.

**Index of Prices Received, United States, September & October 2003**

Index and Ratios	OCT 2002	SEPT 2003	OCT 2003
<i>1990-92=100</i>			
All Farm Products	95	*110	113
All Crops	101	*111	111
Feed Grain & Hay	105	* 100	92
Oil- Bearing Crops	90	* 97	116
Fruits & Nuts	123	*120	119
All Livestock and Livestock Products	87	*110	116
Meat Animals	84	*108	116
Dairy Products	93	*110	113
Poultry and Eggs	86	*115	117
Ratio <sup>1</sup>	76	85	87
Prices Paid Index	125	129	130

\*Revised

<sup>1</sup> Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

## MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS INFORMATION

The following reports are available electronically at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/md/>. For ordering facsimile or printed versions phone the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service at (410) 841-5740.

***Crop and Weather Report*** - Contains State information on crop progress and conditions, and weather effects throughout the crop year, including monthly county precipitation data. Issued each Monday, April through November.

***Delmarva Broiler Chicks Report*** - Contains weekly broiler-type eggs set, hatched, and broiler chicks placed on Delmarva, including broiler eggs set and placed in 15-Selected States. Issued weekly.

***Grain and Livestock Report*** - Contains timely statistics on all livestock and grains, cash grain quotes, forward contract price quotes, grain futures, and special items of current interest. Issued weekly.

***Custom Rates*** - Rates paid for custom farming operations. Published annually each spring.

***Agri-Facts Report*** - This publication is a review of our most current agricultural data available for Maryland and United States. Issued semi-monthly.

***County Profiles*** - A special publication with county level data. Contains major crop county estimates and monthly weather data plus selected census data such as number of farms, land in farms, and value of sales for all products. Updated and published yearly.

***Agriculture in Maryland Summary*** - This publication includes State, District, and County data for all Maryland crop and livestock estimates for current and previous year. Funding for this publication is provided by the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Published annually each September.

### OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE

**National Agricultural Statistics Service Home Page and U.S. publications:** <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

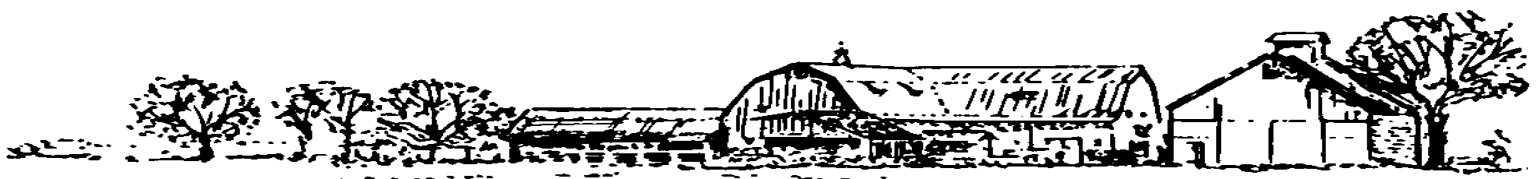
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**For information on national publications** CALL 1-800-999-6779.

**Mail order requests to:** NASS, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161.

**Agricultural Statistics Hotline** CALL 1-800-727-9540.

**Maryland Department of Agriculture Home Page:** <http://www.mda.state.md.us>



## MILK PRODUCTION

Maryland dairy operators produced 304 billion pounds of milk during the July-September 2003 quarter, down 6 percent from the same quarter a year earlier. The number of milk cows was 78,000 head, 3,000 head below from the same quarter a year earlier. Production per cow is 3,897 pounds for the quarter, down 3 percent from the same quarter last year.

The quarterly production of milk for the U.S. was 41.5 billion pounds, 1 percent below the July-September period last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.07 million head, 88,000 head less than the same period last year.

**Milk Cows And Production, July-September 2002-2003**

State	Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		2003/2002
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	
	<i>Thousand</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
<b>Maryland</b>	81	78	4,000	3,897	324	304	94
<b>United States</b>	9,153	9,065	4,566	4,583	41,791	41,546	99

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT NORMAN BENNETT STATE STATISTICIAN AT (410) 841 5740**

**E:mail :nass-md@nass.usda.gov**

**Home Page: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>**